

REMARKS

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

1. Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner has restricted the claims of the subject application into the following two invention groups:

1. Claims 1-27, 31-36 and 38-41; and
2. Claims 28-30 and 37.

The Examiner has stated that the two invention groups are distinct because they cannot be used together. Applicants herein elect group 1 for further examination in the subject application without traverse, without prejudice or disclaimer.

2. Election of Species

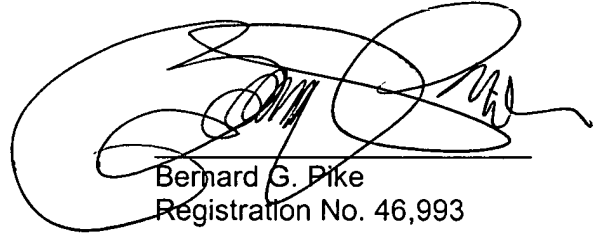
The Examiner asserts that the Applicants are required to elect under 35 U.S.C. § 121 disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Applicants elect Me6TREN as the soluble ligand, a bipyridine derivative as the ligand attached to the support and polystyrene beads as the support.

SUBMITTED COPY

CONCLUSIONS

Applicants have made a diligent effort to fully respond to the restriction and election requirement presented by the Examiner. Examination of the application's elected species, entry of amendments and issuance of a Notice of Allowance at an early date are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any concerns regarding Applicants' present response, he is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below so that those concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted,



Bernard G. Pike
Registration No. 46,993

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP
Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2312

Phone: (412) 355-8620
Fax: (412) 355-6501